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Agricultural Adjustment Agency  
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The Outlook For

FEED GRAIN SUPPLIES

— August 15, 1945 —

ABOVE AVERAGE FEED CROPS during the past 8 years have enabled farmers to carry out record-breaking dairy and livestock programs. Whether farmers can continue their dairy and livestock production at the present level will depend largely on feed supplies available during the next feeding year which begins October 1.

IN RECENT YEARS about 80 percent of all concentrates fed to livestock and poultry were furnished by the four feed grains — corn, oats, barley and grain sorghums. The volume of these supplies next year depends upon the 1945 corn crop more than anything else. The corn crop on the basis of August 1 indications may be as much as 12 percent less than last year's. Conclusions drawn at this time on the 1945-46 feed grain situation are subject to revision as crop prospects change.

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IF THE 1945 CORN CROP equals the August 1 estimate, this year's production of the four principal feed grains — corn, oats, barley, and grain sorghums — will be about 94 percent as large as for the previous year. An increase in oats will offset about one-half of the decrease in the other crops. Encouraging is the expected carryover of 1944-crop corn, oats, and barley which will be about 50 percent larger than last year's very low level. This carryover added to the production this year leaves a total feed grain supply about 1.5 percent less than a year earlier.

So important is the corn crop to the feed grain supply that a change of about one bushel in the average yields of corn would change the total domestically produced feed grain supply by about 2 percent. However, if much of the crop should be harvested as soft corn, as might happen this year if early frosts occur, the feeding value of the crop would be lowered considerably.

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HERE'S HOW the prospective feed supply for 1945-46 compares by Regions with the supply for 1944-45:

North Atlantic	105%	South Atlantic	103%
East North Central	112%	South Central	93%
West North Central	93%	Western	92%
U. S. 98.6%			

1945  
1945

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Hogs, chickens, and milk cows are the principal consumers of feed grains. Here's how livestock numbers for 1945 compare with 1944 numbers:

	North Atlantic %	East North Central %	West North Central %	South Atlantic %	South Central %	Western %	U. S. %
No. of Spring Pigs	68	94	101	74	83	76	93
" " Fall Sows to Farrow	98	112	126	95	101	108	112
" " Chickens Raised on Farms	107	113	110	97	104	116	108
No. of Laying Hens, July	88	96	99	93	93	84	94
" " Milk Cows, June 1	101	100	96	99	98	98	98
Dairy Feed Requirements	Very Strong	Very Strong	Maintained	Maintained	Strong	Strong	Strong

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NORTH ATLANTIC STATES

(Maine, Vermont, New York, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania)

Feed grain supply will exceed that of a year earlier by about 5 percent with the expected carryover on October 1 slightly larger this year than last. There are more young chickens but there has been a sharp drop in layers on farms. Feed needs may equal those of a year earlier if enough young chickens are kept to again increase the numbers of layers. As this area imports much of its feed, its supplies will depend on the ability to obtain shipments from surplus areas. However, since some of the surplus areas are expected to consume most of their supplies this year, less than normal quantities would be available for the North Atlantic Area. Hay supplies considerably larger than a year earlier will materially aid the feed situation for dairy cows, especially in southern New England.

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EASTERN CORN BELT

(Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio)

The feed grain supply is 12 percent over a year earlier. If the indicated rise of 1 1/2 percent in the fall pig crop over last year's materializes it will increase requirements for feed. Demand for poultry and dairy feed exceeds that of a year ago.

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WESTERN CORN BELT

(Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri)

The carryover should be much larger than last year. However, a sharp drop in corn crop may force feed grain supplies down 7 percent from a year earlier. Higher hog and chicken output, plus maintenance of egg and milk production, likely will boost requirements over last year and decrease the amount available for out-shipments.

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## SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES

(Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, South Carolina, Florida)

The feed grain supply is about 3 percent above last year's with the carryover somewhat higher but production smaller. Fewer young chickens on farms in that area will require slightly less feed, however, heavy requirements for broilers will likely continue. Dairy needs are expected to continue at 1944-45 level. This area normally ships in large quantities of feed. Difficulties may be expected during the coming winter in obtaining supplies from usual surplus States due to reduced supplies and increased requirements in such States.

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## SOUTH CENTRAL STATES

(Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama)

The feed grain supply is down 7 percent largely as a result of a 17 percent drop in grain sorghum production. Requirements will likely be about the same as during the 1944-45 feeding year. Dairy, hog and poultry production expected to continue strong.

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## WESTERN STATES

(Washington, Oregon, California, Montana, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico)

Smaller corn, oats, barley, and grain sorghum production indicate an 8 percent drop in the feed grain supply from a year earlier despite an increase in carry-over of oats, corn and barley. The feed supply for the Pacific Northwest will be down more than the regional average. A decrease in laying hens in Western States may reduce feed requirements slightly. However, there are unusually large numbers of turkeys and young chickens and hen numbers may again be increased by keeping young pullets now on farms. Dairy feed requirements will continue strong.

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Indicated Feed Grain Production Plus Carryover in Regions by Feeding Years

	<u>North Atlantic</u>	<u>East North Central</u>	<u>West North Central</u>	<u>South Atlantic</u>	<u>South Central</u>	<u>Western</u>	<u>U.S.</u>
	(1000 Tons)						
<u>Corn</u>							
1944-45	2,741	26,562	49,310	5,732	10,980	941	96,266
1945-46	2,883	27,950	41,916	5,871	10,753	773	90,146
1945-46 % of 1944-45	105.2%	105.2%	85.0%	102.4%	97.9%	82.1%	93.6%
<u>Oats</u>							
1944-45	971	5,984	11,034	711	1,769	1,158	21,627
1945-46	1,015	8,490	14,894	789	1,875	1,054	28,117
1945-46 % of 1944-45	104.5%	141.9%	135.0%	111.0%	106.0%	91.0%	130.0%
<u>Barley</u>							
1944-45	146	363	3,969	162	484	3,118	8,242
1945-46	150	302	3,936	158	334	3,088	7,968
1945-46 % of 1944-45	102.7%	83.2%	99.2%	97.5%	69.0%	99.0%	96.7%
<u>Sorghum Grain</u>							
1944-45	--	1	1,553	2	3,075	459	5,089
1945-46	--	1	646	2	2,263	281	3,191
1945-46 % of 1944-45		100.0%	41.6%	100.0%	73.6%	61.2%	62.7%
<u>4 Grains</u>							
1944-45	3,858	32,910	65,866	6,607	16,308	5,676	131,224
1945-46	4,048	36,743	61,392	6,820	15,225	5,196	129,422
1945-46 % of 1944-45	104.9%	111.6%	93.2%	103.2%	93.4%	91.5%	98.6%

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